

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

At page 22, lines 6-12, please replace the paragraph with the following new paragraph:

FIGS. 3(a) and 3(b) are views showing results of sequence analysis on a 3-base-insertion-mutation-site-containing region of the RA-related gene. FIG. 3(a) shows a result of sequence analysis on a gene of 3-base-insertion type (SEQ. ID NO.:10), whereas FIG. 3(b) shows a result of sequence analysis on a gene of 3-base-deletion type (SEQ. ID NO.:11).

Please delete the sequence listing and replace it with the sequence listing sheets attached hereto, renumbering pages if required. A computer readable form of the sequence listing is also enclosed.